

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: SEKINE, Chizu et al. Conf.:  
Appl. No.: NEW Group:  
Filed: February 8, 2002 Examiner:  
For: COMPOUND HAVING PHENYLACETYLENE STRUCTURE,  
LIQUID CRYSTAL COMPOSITION, POLYMER,  
OPTICALLY ANTISOTROPIC PRODUCT, OPTICAL  
OR LIQUID CRYSTAL ELEMENT,  
DIBENZOTHIOPHENE COMPOUND, INTERMEDIATE,  
AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

February 8, 2002

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

14. (Amended) A liquid crystal composition comprising: the compound of claim 2, the polymer of claim 10, the polymer of claim 12 or a mixture thereof; and at least one monomer compound other

than the compound of claim 2, selected from the group consisting of methacrylate, esters, acrylate esters, epoxy, and vinyl ethers.

17. (Amended) A liquid crystal composition comprising: the compound of claim 4, the polymer of claim 11, the polymer of claim 13 or a mixture thereof; and at least one monomer compound other than the compound of claim 4, selected from the group consisting of methacrylate esters, acrylate esters, epoxy, and vinyl ethers.

20. (Amended) An optically anisotropic product produced with the compound of claim 2, the polymer of claim 10, the polymer of claim 12 or a mixture thereof.

21. (Amended) An optically antisotropic product produced with the compound of claim 4, the polymer of claim 11, the polymer of claim 13 or a mixture thereof.

22. (Amended) An optical or liquid crystal element produced with the compound of claim 2, the polymer of claim 10, the polymer of claim 12 or a mixture thereof.

23. (Amended) An optical or liquid crystal element produced with the compound of claim 4, the polymer of claim 11, the polymer of claim 13 or a mixture thereof.

**Please add the following claims:**

32. An optically anisotropic product produced with the liquid crystal composition of claim 14.

33. An optically anisotropic product produced with the polymer of claim 16.

34. An optically anisotropic product produced with the liquid composition of claim 17.

35. An optically anisotropic product produced with the polymer of claim 19.

36. An optical or liquid crystal element produced with the liquid crystal composition of claim 14.

37. An optical or liquid crystal element produced with the polymer of claim 16.

38. An optical or liquid crystal element produced with the liquid crystal composition of claim 17.

39. An optical or liquid crystal element produced with the polymer of claim 19.

**REMARKS**

The amendment to the claims is merely to correct improper multiple dependencies in claims 14, 17 and 20-23. Claims 32 through 39 have been added and are based on original claims 21-23, to the extent they previously depended on claims 14, 16, 17 and/or 19.

Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

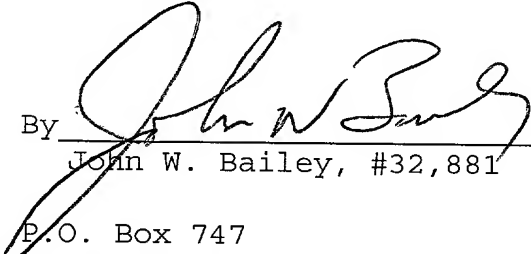
Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the application by this Amendment.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By

  
John W. Bailey, #32,881

P.O. Box 747  
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747  
(703) 205-8000

JWB/ka  
3349-0106P  
Attachments

(Rev. 12/19/01)

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims have been amended as follows:

14. (Amended) A liquid crystal composition comprising: [at least one compound selected from the group consisting of] the compound of claim 2, the polymer of claim 10, [and] the polymer of claim 12 or a mixture thereof; and at least one monomer compound other than the compound of claim 2, selected from the group consisting of methacrylate, esters, acrylate esters, epoxy, and vinyl ethers.

17. (Amended) A liquid crystal composition comprising: [at least one compound selected from the group consisting of] the compound of claim 4, the polymer of claim 11, [and] the polymer of claim 13 or a mixture thereof; and at least one monomer compound other than the compound of claim 4, selected from the group consisting of methacrylate esters, acrylate esters, epoxy, and vinyl ethers.

20. (Amended) An optically anisotropic product produced with [at least one material selected from the group consisting of] the compound of claim 2, the polymer of claim 10, the polymer of claim 12 or a mixture thereof [, the liquid crystal composition of claim 14, and the polymer of claim 16].

21. (Amended) An optically anisotropic product produced with [at least one material selected from the group consisting of] the compound of claim 4, the polymer of claim 11, the polymer of claim 13 or a mixture thereof [, the liquid crystal composition of claim 17, and the polymer of claim 19].

22. (Amended) An optical or liquid crystal element produced with [at least one material selected from the group consisting of] the compound of claim 2, the polymer of claim 10, the polymer of claim 12 or a mixture thereof [, the liquid crystal composition of claim 14, and the polymer of claim 16].

23. (Amended) An optical or liquid crystal element produced with [at least one material selected from the group consisting of] the compound of claim 4, the polymer of claim 11, the polymer of claim 13 or a mixture thereof [, the liquid crystal composition of claim 17, and the polymer of claim 19].

Claims 32 through 39 have been added.